



**Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training**

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Sacramento, CA 95816-7083  
www.post.ca.gov

**July 23, 2009**

**Resolution In Support of Vehicle Operations and Training Research**

WHEREAS, traffic collisions are the leading cause of on-duty fatalities and career-ending injuries for law enforcement officers in California and nationally; and

WHEREAS, California has more law enforcement officers and fatal and injury traffic collisions than any other state; and

WHEREAS, the percentage of law enforcement officers killed in traffic collisions has been climbing steadily for the past five years; and

WHEREAS, the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) is directed by law to research and set training and selection standards for the betterment of California peace officers (PC §13510(a)); and

WHEREAS, POST has created the largest database of law enforcement officers and collision and training histories ever assembled for study; and

WHEREAS, POST has assembled a Vehicle Operations Training Advisory Council (VOTAC) and Research Team (RT) including representation from the federal government and state and local governments and academic institutions in California, Washington, Utah, Colorado, Michigan, Oklahoma, South Carolina, and Florida; and

WHEREAS, the VOTAC has published preliminary research findings in the *Driver Training Study: Volume I*, which indicate best practices and areas of research opportunity that can save lives, protect the public, and reduce civil liability; and

WHEREAS, the RT is comprised of leading national researchers including Dr. Geoff Alpert – University of South Carolina; Dr. Mary Dodge – University of Colorado Denver; Dr. Tom Rice – University of California, Berkeley (Traffic Safety Center); Dr. Ron Tarr – University of Central Florida (Institute for Simulation and Training); Dr. Bryan Vila – Washington State University, Spokane; Dr. Kevin Wehr – California State University, Sacramento; and Dr. Jerry Williams – University of Colorado Denver; and

WHEREAS, the findings and subsequent benefits of this study will be of use to the entire nation and save countless lives; and

WHEREAS, the cost of this research, while trivial compared to its value, is substantial;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training does hereby express unwavering support for the study of driver training and vehicle operations in order to save and protect the lives of law enforcement officers and the public at large and does furthermore call on public and private stakeholders to lend financial assistance and support in the furtherance of this cause.

**AYES:** MICHAEL SOBEK (Commission Chair), San Leandro PD; ROBERT T. DOYLE (Commission Vice-Chair), Marin County Sheriff; GEORGE ANDERSON for JERRY BROWN, Attorney General's Office; ANTHONY BATTS, Long Beach PD; LAI LAI BUI, Sacramento PD; COLLENE CAMPBELL, Memory of Victims Everywhere; DEBORAH LINDEN, San Luis Obispo PD; FLOYD HAYHURST, Los Angeles County SD; RONALD LOWENBERG, Golden West College Criminal Justice Training Center; JEFFREY LUNDGREN, Riverside County SD; JOHN MCGINNESS, Sacramento County Sheriff; HENRY PEREA, Fresno City Council; LAURIE SMITH, Santa Clara County Sheriff; GIL VAN ATTENHOVEN, California Narcotic Officers' Association.

**NAYS:** None.

**ABSTAIN:** None.

**ABSENT:** BONNIE DUMANIS, San Diego County District Attorney.